

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 31 December 2010 from the Chair of the
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution
1521 (2003) concerning Liberia addressed to the President of the
Security Council**

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia (see annex), which contains an account of the Committee's activities during the period from 1 January to 31 December 2010. The report is submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council dated 29 March 1995 (S/1995/234).

(Signed) Ivan **Barbalić**

Chairman

Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia

Annex

Annual report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia

I. Introduction

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2010. The web page of the Committee is available from: <http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1521/index.shtml>.

2. For 2010, the Bureau of the Committee consisted of Ivan Barbalić (Bosnia and Herzegovina) as Chair, with the delegations of Turkey and Uganda providing the Vice-Chairs. During the reporting period, the Committee held two informal consultations.

II. Background information

3. Previous sanctions regimes concerning Liberia were imposed by the Security Council by its resolutions 788 (1992) and 1343 (2001), respectively. In its resolution 1521 (2003), the Council decided to revise the legal basis of the sanctions to reflect the changed circumstances in Liberia, in particular the departure of former President Charles Taylor, the formation of the National Transitional Government of Liberia and progress with the peace process in Sierra Leone. Under resolution 1521 (2003), the Council dissolved the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) and established a new Committee to oversee the implementation of the measures as modified and re-imposed by the same resolution: an arms embargo, restrictions on the travel of individuals designated by the Committee on the basis of the criteria contained in the resolution, and prohibitions on the import of rough diamonds and round logs and timber products originating in Liberia. By resolution 1521 (2003) the Council also established a Panel of Experts consisting of up to five members, to provide the Committee with information regarding the implementation of the measures and progress made towards meeting the conditions for the lifting of sanctions. On 16 March 2004, the Committee issued a new travel-ban list, containing the names of individuals subject to travel restrictions imposed by paragraph 4 of resolution 1521 (2003).

4. In order to prevent former Liberian President Charles Taylor, his immediate family members, senior officials of the former Taylor regime, or other close allies or associates designated by the Committee from using misappropriated funds and property to interfere in the restoration of peace and stability in Liberia and the subregion, the Security Council decided, under paragraph 1 of resolution 1532 (2004), that all States would freeze without delay funds, other financial assets and economic resources owned or controlled directly or indirectly by Charles Taylor, Jewel Howard Taylor, Charles Taylor, Jr., and/or those other individuals designated by the Committee. On 14 June 2004, the Committee issued its initial list of individuals and entities subject to the measures contained in paragraph 1 of resolution 1532 (2004) (the assets-freeze list). By paragraph 5 of resolution 1532 (2004), the Council further decided that it would review the measures imposed by

paragraph 1 of that resolution at least once a year; no expiration date for those particular measures was provided in the resolution.

5. A summary of the imposition and extension of the various sanctions measures (excluding the assets freeze) together with the mandates of the Panel of Experts is contained in the table below:

<i>Resolution number and date</i>	<i>Arms embargo and travel ban extended for</i>	<i>Diamond sanctions extended for</i>	<i>Timber sanctions extended for</i>	<i>Panel of Experts established/extended for</i>	<i>Symbols of Panel's reports</i>
Resolution 1521 (2003) 22 December 2003	12 months	12 months	12 months	5 months	S/2004/396 and Corr.1 and 2
Resolution 1549 (2004) 17 June 2004	n/a	n/a	n/a	6 months	S/2004/752 S/2004/955
Resolution 1579 (2004) 21 December 2004	12 months	6 months	12 months	6 months	S/2005/176 S/2005/360
Resolution 1607 (2005) 21 June 2005	n/a	6 months	n/a	6 months	S/2005/745
Resolution 1647 (2005) 20 December 2005	12 months	6 months	6 months	6 months	S/2006/379
Resolution 1689 (2006) 20 June 2006	n/a	6 months	(not renewed)	6 months	S/2006/976
Resolution 1731 (2006) 20 December 2006	12 months	6 months	n/a	6 months	S/2007/340
Resolution 1753 (2007) 27 April 2007	n/a	(terminated)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Resolution 1760 (2007) 20 June 2007	n/a	n/a	n/a	6 months	S/2007/689
Resolution 1792 (2007) 19 December 2007	12 months	n/a	n/a	6 months	S/2008/371
Resolution 1819 (2008) 18 June 2008	n/a	n/a	n/a	6 months	S/2008/785
Resolution 1854 (2008) 19 December 2008	12 months	n/a	n/a	12 months	S/2009/290 S/2009/640
Resolution 1903 (2009) 17 December 2009	12 months	n/a	n/a	12 months	S/2010/319 S/2010/609
Resolution 1961 (2010) 17 December 2010	12 months	n/a	n/a	12 months	

6. Notably, by its resolution 1683 (2006), the Security Council, welcoming the leadership of the newly elected President and her efforts to restore peace, security and harmony throughout Liberia, modified the arms embargo to incorporate additional exemptions for the Liberian Special Security Service and, subject to advance approval by the Committee, for members of the Liberian police and security forces who have been vetted and trained since the inception of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) in October 2003.
7. By its resolution 1688 (2006), the Council decided that the travel restrictions imposed by resolution 1521 (2003) would not apply to former President Taylor for the purposes of any travel related to his trial before the Special Court for Sierra Leone, as well as any travel related to the execution of the judgement, and also to exempt from the travel ban the travel of any witnesses whose presence at the trial was required.
8. By its resolution 1689 (2006), the Council, concluding that sufficient progress had been made in meeting the conditions set out for terminating the measures on timber, decided not to renew the prohibitions on the import of round logs and timber products from Liberia; however, it also decided to review that decision after a period of 90 days and expressed its determination to reinstate the measures, unless forestry legislation as specified in the resolution had been passed. During the review, held on 20 October 2006, the members of the Council concluded that there was no basis for reinstating those measures as otherwise stipulated in the resolution.
9. By its resolution 1731 (2006), the Council, recognizing the need for newly vetted and trained Liberian security forces to assume greater responsibility for national security, and taking note of the need for Liberian armed forces to procure humanitarian, medical and/or training equipment, further modified the arms embargo to exclude supplies of non-lethal military equipment.
10. By its resolution 1753 (2007), the Council, concluding that sufficient progress had been made in meeting the conditions set out for terminating the measures on diamonds, decided to terminate those measures, almost two months ahead of their date of expiration as set by resolution 1689 (2006).
11. By its resolution 1792 (2007), the Council also decided that States would notify the Committee upon delivery of all arms and related materiel approved and supplied in accordance with paragraph 2 (e) of resolution 1521 (2003).
12. By its resolution 1903 (2009), the Council decided that for a period of 12 months the measures on arms shall not apply to the Government of Liberia and it renewed the measures for a period of 12 months with regard to all non-governmental entities and individuals operating in the territory of Liberia. In the same resolution, the Council also decided that all States shall notify the Committee in advance of any shipment of arms and related materiel to the Government of Liberia or of any provision of assistance, advice or training related to military activities for the Government of Liberia.
13. By its resolution 1961 (2010), the Council renewed the arms embargo on all non-governmental entities and individuals operating in the territory of Liberia and the travel ban for a period of 12 months. By the same resolution, the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Panel of Experts on Liberia until 16 December 2010, and included in the Panel's mandate, *inter alia*, a request to report on the implementation, and any violations, of the measures on arms as amended by

resolution 1903 (2009). The Council also included in the Panel's mandate a request to assess the extent to which forests and other natural resources are contributing to peace, security and development rather than to instability and to what extent relevant legislation and other reform efforts are contributing to this transition, and to provide recommendations on how such natural resources could better contribute to Liberia's progress towards sustainable peace and stability.

III. Summary of the activities of the Committee

A. Requests for exemptions to the measures/notifications

14. During the reporting period, the Committee considered three requests for travel-ban waivers under paragraph 4 (c) of resolution 1521 (2003), of which two were granted. Furthermore, the Committee received and approved two notifications in accordance with paragraph 2 (a) of resolution 1532 (2004) (communications dated 19 November 2010 from the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations and 6 December 2010 from the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations). The Committee also received and approved one notification in accordance with paragraph 2 (b) of resolution 1532 (2004) (communication dated 12 January 2010 from the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations).

15. During the period under review, the Committee received four notifications in accordance with paragraph 6 of resolution 1903 (2009) (communications dated 25 February and 9 March 2010 from the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations; and communications dated 10 March and 24 September 2010 from the United States Mission to the United Nations). The Committee also received two notifications in accordance with paragraph 5 (c) of resolution 1903 (2009) (communication dated 26 August 2010 from the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations and communication dated 30 November 2010 from the United Nations Office for Project Services).

16. In accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 1683 (2006), the Committee received, during the reporting period, five communications from UNMIL transmitting reports on the results of the Mission's inspections of inventories of weapons and ammunition obtained in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of that resolution, to ensure that all such weapons and ammunition were accounted for.

B. Review of the travel-ban and assets-freeze lists

17. During the period under review, the Committee received de-listing requests with regard to four individuals on its travel-ban list (and assets-freeze list, where applicable). All four requests were submitted through the focal point process as set out in the annex to resolution 1730 (2006).

18. In accordance with paragraph 6 (b) of the annex to resolution 1730 (2006), the Committee did not accede to two of the four de-listing requests received from the focal point. The process of consideration of the other two requests had not yet been concluded by the end of the reporting period.

C. Implementation of the sanctions regime

19. The Committee received, on 15 April 2010, a communication from the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Liberia forwarding the official reaction of the Government of Liberia to the final report of the Panel of Experts on Liberia (S/2009/640).

20. On 10 August 2010, the Committee received a note verbale from the Permanent Mission of Serbia to the United Nations transmitting a report on the measures taken by Serbia to implement relevant paragraphs of Security Council resolution 1903 (2009).

21. In 2010, the Committee received no additional replies from States in response to its note verbale dated 20 January 2004 seeking information on the implementation of the sanctions measures imposed by resolution 1521 (2003); thus, the total number of replies received remains 17. The Committee also received no additional replies from States in response to its note verbale of 14 June 2004; thus, the total number of replies received remains 15. Pursuant to paragraph 4 (d) of resolution 1532 (2004), that note verbale sought information from all States regarding the actions they had taken to trace and freeze the funds, other financial assets and economic resources described in that resolution.

22. In its final report pursuant to paragraph 9 (f) of Security Council resolution 1903 (2009) (S/2010/609), the Panel of Experts reported that some minor violations of the arms embargo had occurred and that the proliferation of locally manufactured guns and pistols was becoming a major concern. The Panel had no further information on alleged travel of designated individuals. With regard to the assets freeze, the Panel reported that the Government of Liberia had not undertaken any actions to freeze the assets of individuals or entities on the Committee's assets-freeze list.

D. Other activities

23. On 26 March 2010, the Committee dispatched letters to the Permanent Representatives to the United Nations of Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and the United States of America as well as to the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations and the World Bank Forestry Coordinator for Liberia, drawing attention to relevant recommendations contained in the final report of the Panel of Experts on Liberia (S/2009/640). Subsequently, the Committee received a reply to its letter from the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations on 13 May 2010.

24. On 30 March 2010, the Committee adopted revised guidelines for the conduct of its work. The guidelines were revised to take account of relevant provisions of resolution 1903 (2009). In that connection, the Committee issued a press release (SC/9899) on 1 April 2010. The revised guidelines are also available on the website of the Committee.

25. At its informal consultations on 16 June 2010, the Committee received a briefing from the Panel of Experts on its midterm report (S/2010/319), submitted pursuant to paragraph 9 (f) of resolution 1903 (2009), and discussed the recommendations contained therein. Subsequently, on 13 July 2010 the Chairman briefed the Security Council during its consultations on the deliberations of the Committee on the Panel's midterm report.

26. On 10 December 2010, the Chairman briefed the Security Council during its consultations on the main findings contained in the final report of the Panel of Experts (S/2010/609) submitted pursuant to paragraph 9 (f) of resolution 1903 (2009). The Committee received a briefing from the Panel of Experts on its final report and discussed the recommendations contained therein during its informal consultations on 13 December 2010.

IV. Observations

27. The Committee continues to rely on the reporting of the Panel of Experts to monitor the implementation of the remaining sanctions measures and to keep abreast with various developments in the area of natural resources.
